

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Attention: Michael Powell, Chairman

Reference: A) FCC Proceeding Docket #02-277

B) W.J.O'Keefe letter dated 3-6-03

Subject: Repeal Of The 1975 FCC Regulation Prohibiting Media "Cross Ownership"

Mr. Powell,

I understand that one of the principal reasons the United States enacted the Communications Act of 1934, which established the FCC, was to avoid the dangers and to prevent the abusive affects that the creation of a single source of news and information would have on the American general public. Affects, which left unchecked, could lead to ones similar to those of the epochal program which had then been recently announced in pre-World War Two Germany, by the National Socialist German Workers' Party. (A.k.a. NAZIS).

Specifically, item#23 of that program which in essence says; that they first demanded there be a legal campaign against those who propagate deliberate political lies against them and disseminate them through the press. Secondly that non-German newspapers shall only be published with the express permission of the State and that they must not be published in the German language. Thirdly, that all financial interests in or in any way affecting German newspapers shall be forbidden to non-Germans by law, and they demanded that the punishment for transgressing this law would be the immediate suppression of the newspaper and the expulsion of the non-Germans from the Reich.

Please keep in mind that once their party came to power through National elections, resulting in Adolph Hitler becoming Chancellor, everything that the Nazis did in Germany was legal, most certainly not morally right, but legal!

You state that you are establishing a solid factual foundation for re-evaluating FCC media ownership policies, and that then, you intend to apply a sound empirical approach to that foundation, as a basis for deciding media ownership policies that promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market. Yet, it has been exceedingly obvious from the beginning of public discussion on this subject, that through your public statements, you have been pre-disposed to either weaken or abolish the existing FCC regulation that prohibits media cross ownership of newspaper and broadcast outlets in the same market area.

As I understand the FCC's charter, it's actions and rulings are supposed to result in, as the U.S. Supreme Court declared in 1945, **"the widest possible dissemination of information from diverse and antagonistic sources - and that this- is essential to the welfare of the people"**. Joint ownership of newspaper and broadcast outlets in the same market area by so-called "Media Conglomerates", fails to meet that definition, and should not be allowed.

I reiterate my earlier expressed opinion that Joint ownership of newspaper and broadcast outlets in the same market area should not be allowed.

Sincerely,  
William J. O'Keefe  
Tolland, Ct. 06084

cc: Elizabeth S. Ellis  
Publisher  
Journal Inquirer